Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

determining a minimum required bandwidth b_{tot} to transmit digital content comprising n segments, based on

$$b_{tot} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} b_i = B \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{d+i-1}$$

, wherein B is a data rate of the digital content and d is a delay time; and

determining~~, according to an earliest deadline first (EDF) process,~~ a schedule for transmission times of various segments from the plurality of segments of the digital content across multiple channels so as to permit any number of content consumers to begin playback of said segments of the digital content from an origination point thereof within a waiting time of a request for such playback, and so as to not exceed the determined minimum required bandwidth ~~wherein in the EDF process a next transmission time for one of the various segments of digital content is determined by first finding an earliest deadline amongst a list of current deadlines for each of the various segments and selecting this segment for transmission~~.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the various segments of digital content together comprise a movie.

3 - 20. (Cancelled).

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising receiving the segments following transmission thereof over a broadcast network, storing the segments in temporary storage, and playing back the segments.

22 - 26. (Cancelled).

27. (Cancelled).

28. (Currently Amended) A server configured to:

determine a minimum required bandwidth b_{tot} to transmit digital content comprising n segments, based on

$$b_{tot} = B\sum_{i=1}^{n}\frac{1}{d+i-1}$$

, wherein B is a data rate of the digital content and d is a delay time; and

generate transmission schedules for each of a number of segments of a multimedia presentation to be transmitted over a multiple channels of a broadcast network, said schedules computed according to an earliest deadline first (EDF) procedure in which a next segment to be transmitted is determined by first finding an earliest transmission deadline amongst a list of current transmission deadlines for each of the segments and selecting this segment for transmission, so as to not exceed the determined minimum required bandwidth.

determining a minimum required bandwidth for transmitting digital content based on the length of

29 - 35. (Cancelled).

36. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein determining the schedule for transmission times of various segments of the movie comprises inserting each segment from the various segments into a queue according to $k = \left\lceil \frac{T_P}{t_i + t_d} \right\rceil$, wherein k is the number of times a

segment from the various segments is broadcast in one period T_P, is the segment index, t_i is playback time for the segment and t_d is a selected maximum wait-time by a receiver.